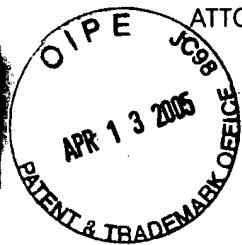


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April 13, 2005

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Commissioner for Patents  
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**Art Unit 2186**  
**Mail Stop: Amendment**

Re: U.S. Utility Patent Application  
Application No. 10/033,997; Filed: December 19, 2001  
For: **Expansion of RAID Subsystem Using Spare Space with Immediate  
Access to New Space**  
Inventors: Chris R. FRANKLIN *et al.*  
Our Ref: 1875.5930000

Sir:

Transmitted herewith for appropriate action are the following documents:

1. Petition for Extension of Time Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a);
2. Credit Card Payment Form (PTO-2038) in the amount of \$120.00 to cover a one month extension of time fee;
3. Reply Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.111; and
4. A return postcard.

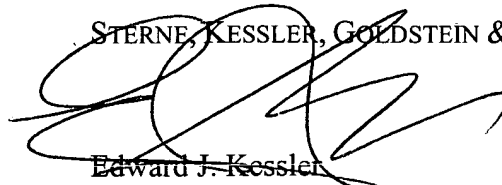
It is respectfully requested that the attached postcard be stamped with the date of filing of these documents, and that it be returned to our courier. In the event that extensions of time are necessary to prevent abandonment of this patent application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned.

Commissioner for Patents  
April 13, 2005  
Page 2

The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to charge any fee deficiency, or credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 19-0036.

Respectfully submitted,

STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'E. Kessler', written over the printed name.

Edward J. Kessler  
Attorney for Applicants  
Registration No. 25,688

EJK/YAT/tts  
Enclosures

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